

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 01204 131154Z

51

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 SAB-01 ACDA-19 SAJ-01 OMB-01 DRC-01

/154 W

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R 130930Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5391

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USUN NEW YORK 639

DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 1204

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS IZ IR

SUBJ: IRAQI-IRANIAN BORDER CLASH

REF: TEHRAN 1176

1. PRESS FEBRUARY 13 REPORTS IRAN-IRAQ BORDER QUIET AFTER
BORDER CLASH (REFTEL). REPORTS IRAQ WARNED FEBRUARY 12 BY
"DIPLOMATS AND WORLD PRESS NOT TO TAX IRAN'S PATIENCE". CON-
FIRMS IRAN SENT STRONGLY WORDED PROTEST NOTE. TEXT OF NOTE NOT
RELEASED BUT QUOTING "SOURCES" (READ GOI OFFICIALS), IT DEMANDED
IRAQ ENSURE THERE BE NO MORE AGGRESSION AND HELD IRAQ RESPONSIBLE
FOR THE GRAVE CONSEQUENCES WHICH COULD ARISE FROM THE "ATTACK".

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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 01204 131154Z

2. KAYHAN FRONT PAGED STORY BY ITS "DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT" ALLEGING IRAQI CAMERAMEN HAD FILMED A TELEVISION DOCUMENTARY OF THE CLASH WHICH BROADCAST BY BAGHDAD TELEVISION FEBRUARY 11 AS PART OF REGULAR NEWS BULLETIN. THIS, THE WRITER CLAIMS, GIVES REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE TV CREW WAS DISPATCHED TO THE AREA WHERE CLASH TOOK PLACE AS PART OF "CAREFULLY PREPARED AND FULLY PREMEDITATED IRAQI ATTACK ON IRAN IN THE REZA-PAD AND KONJANCHAM REGION OF MEHRAN-GHARB".

3. THE JOURNAL ADDITIONALLY FRONT PAGED STORY THAT IN PERSIAN LANGUAGE BROADCAST OF RADIO BAGHDAD, IRAN WAS BLAMED FOR THE INCIDENT, BUT DESPITE THE DEVELOPMENT, THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT WAS STILL WILLING TO REMOVE DIFFERENCES IN ATMOSPHERE OF FRIENDSHIP WHICH SURROUNDED ITS REQUEST FOR RESUMED TIES LAST OCTOBER. SAME NEWSPAPER IN ITS EDITORIAL STATES, INTER ALIA, CHANCES ARE THAT THE CLASH BETWEEN THE BORDER FORCES WILL NOT WRECK THE NORMALIZATION PROCESS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WHICH HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR SOME TIME.

4. COMMENT: WE HAVE NOTED IPS ITEM APPEARING IN "NEWS ROUNDUP" OF NEAR EAST, SOUTH ASIAN WIRELESS BULLETIN FEBRUARY 12 REPORTING IRAQ HAS REQUESTED MEETING OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER "CONTINUING ACTS OF AGGRESSION LAUNCHED BY IRANIAN ARMED FORCES". THERE HAS BEEN NO MENTION OF SUCH ACTION IN THE IRANIAN PRESS.
HELMS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRESS COMMENTS, BORDER INCIDENTS, COMBAT OPERATIONS, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: rowelle0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TEHRAN01204
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740234/aaaabgce.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: TEHRAN 1176
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: rowelle0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <27-Sep-2002 by rowelle0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IRAQI-IRANIAN BORDER CLASH
TAGS: MOPS, IZ, IR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005